

QUAPAW NATION CCDF PROGRAM

February 24, 2021

Gwendolyn Jones

OCC/ACF/HHS

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Dear Gwendolyn Jones,

The Quapaw Nation has not yet determined or finalized how we plan to spend our Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSA) allocations. We have a tentative plan and should finalize those plans after our next Quapaw Nation Business Committee Meeting that will be held on March 20, 2021. The tentative plan is listed below:

DIRECT CHILD CARE SERVICES (Subsidies):

The Quapaw Nation plans to provide direct child care services to those deemed essential. Essential workers will include frontline workers such as health care sector employees, emergency responders, food service workers/suppliers and sanitation workers. These families will be classified under protective services and service will be provided without regard to family income. Applicants will complete an Essential Worker Declaration which would include federal essential worker classifications. Information about the availability of childcare service for essential workers will be shared throughout the service area. *Further guidance is needed from our Federal partners to finalize plans.*

IMPLEMENTATION OF VIRUS MITIGATION POLICIES AND PRACTICES:

CRRSA funds will provide support to Child Care Providers through resources, supplies, and/or technical assistance grants to implement health and safety practices as indicated by State and local health departments and the CDC. Providers may apply for cleaning and sanitation grants, PPE, and other grants as needed to meet specific healthy and safety guidelines. *Further guidance*

is needed from our Federal partners to finalize plans.

GRANTS OR ASSISTANCE (Other Than Subsidies) TO STABILIZE CHILD CARE PROVIDERS:

Stabilization grants will be given to providers to support the stability of the child care to help child care providers pay for increased operating expenses and decreased income because of the COVID-19 public health emergency. *Further guidance is needed from our Federal partners to finalize plans.*

ASSISTANCE TO PROVIDERS NOT PARTICIPATING IN THE SUBSIDY PROGRAM PRIOR TO THE PANDEMIC:

As required, a portion of the CRRSA funds will be appropriated to assist those child care providers who, prior to COVID-19, were eligible but not receiving CCDF subsidy. These funds may be given as health and safety grants or stabilization grants. *Further guidance is needed from our Federal partners to finalize plans.*

OTHER:

The O-Gah-Pah Nation plans to use a portion of CRRSA child care funds for the following activities:

CRRSA funds will also be used to support the recruitment, education, and stipends to increase the availability of qualified childcare staff.

Further guidance is needed from our Federal partners to finalize plans.

Respectfully,

JoOuita Smith

JoOuita Smith,
Quapaw Nation
Child Care Programs Director

